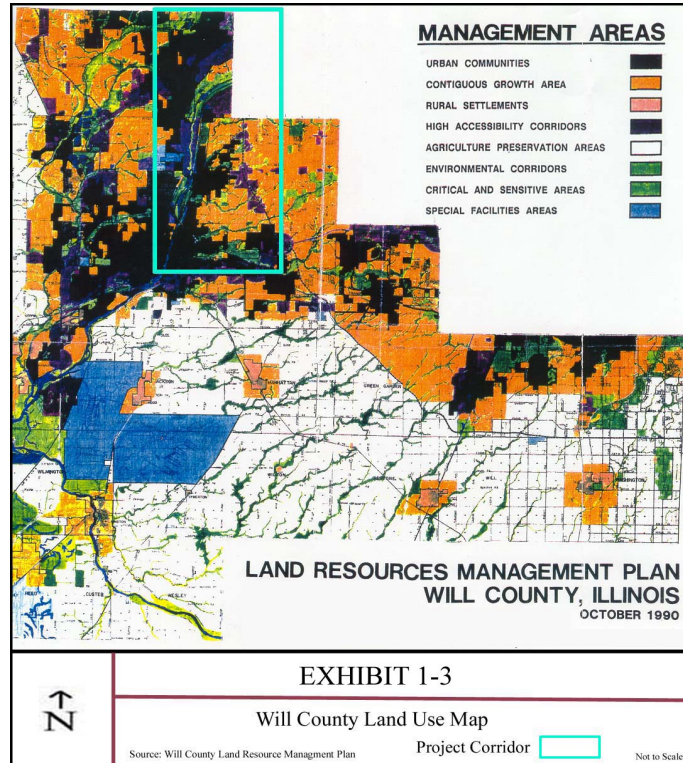


planned land use. These maps represent a vision of how Will County and municipal governments plan to optimize future land use to meet county and municipal goals. These maps also provide the basis for local zoning by which county and local governments regulate development to ensure consistency with adopted land use plans. These land use maps were prepared and adopted using a public process to ensure consistency with local goals and priorities.

A primary planning goal of Will County is to promote contiguous, urbanized growth in the northern portion of Will County as a means to maintain the rural character of the County's southern portion ([Will County, 1996](#)).

The Project Corridor falls within the area designated for urbanized growth. Exhibit 1-3 presents the current adopted Will County land use plan map.



Municipal plans within the Project Corridor contain similar goals of promoting growth within the Corridor. Consistent with these goals, the land use plans of Will County and the Project Corridor municipalities designate over 75 percent of the Project Corridor for residential and commercial/industrial development.

Growth is proceeding as planned. Exhibit 1-4 presents a composite map of currently adopted land use maps, as well as maps showing the progression of development occurring within the Project Corridor between 1990 and 1999. Source data was 1990 NIPC land use data, 1999 aerial photography and current adopted Will County and municipal land use plans.

As evidenced by Exhibit 1-4, between 1990 and 1999, developed lands within the Project Corridor increased 29 percent and now occupy 45 percent of the Project Corridor. Land use development is proceeding toward the local planning goal of 75 percent residential and commercial/ industrial development within the Project Corridor.

The rapid increase in development within the Project Corridor mirrors population growth. Overall, the population of Will County increased 10 percent between 1980 and 1990 and 41 percent between 1990 and 2000 according to the U.S. Census. NIPC regional forecasts for the existing airports land use scenario project a 100 percent increase in Will County population between 1990 and 2020 placing Will County among the fastest growing counties in Illinois. Within the Study Area, NIPC forecasts population and employment to increase 82 and 111 percent between 1990 and year 2020.